


ST. BARNABAS CHURCH, SWANLAND – CELL GROUPS NOTES

Sharing Christ through friendship

Week beginning 29 August 2010. Esther 3:8-11 & 4:12-16; Luke 7:36-50.

The Presence of the Spirit – the Fruit He grows in us (Gal.5:22-23): Love

Welcome/ icebreaker	
Worship	<p><i>Suggestions: songs/ hymns that reflect God's compassion and kindness to us, eg. There are loads about Gods love – chose your own</i></p> <p><i>And/ or:</i></p> <p>Say Psalm 136 together (you may want to agree to miss out some of the repetition & use every 4th verse)</p>
Word (refs.↓)	<p><i>Remember: Sunday morning's sermon is usually available to listen to on www.stbchurch.org.uk (downloads tab) if you miss it.</i></p>
<p>Esther 3:8-11 & 4:12-16; Luke 7:36-50</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How costly can love be? Consider what Esther was prepared to risk for the love of God and her people. <i>(You may want to read all of the intervening verses esp v11)</i> • How did the woman demonstrate her love for Jesus? At what cost? • Has there been a time when you have suffered a great cost because of your love of Jesus? If not, what are you prepared to lose because of your love <i>(material things; dignity; suffer ridicule?)</i>.
<p>John 13:34-35</p> <p>John 15:13</p> <p>John 17:26</p>	<p>This is Jesus' marketing plan for the church. How do you and your group measure up? What stops us loving one another?</p> <p>Think about Jesus' definition of love and how he put it into practice.</p> <p>Jesus last words to his disciples – meditate on the love the Father has for Jesus. Jesus says that same love is in us. <i>(meditate on that but it's mind blowing)</i>.</p>
<p>Wind (pray in the Spirit)</p> 	<p>Pray for one another that “you may have power to grasp how wide and long, and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God” <i>Eph 3:18-19</i></p>
Witness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think of how you can demonstrate God's love for the world by showing love for each other. What practical act can each (or together) do for someone else this week, for Jesus' sake. • Then plan how, where and when to do it!